

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
**EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

HENDRIK BLOCK,

Plaintiff,

v.

CALIFORNIA-FRESNO INVESTMENT  
COMPANY, et al.,

Defendants.

Case No. 1:22-cv-01419-AWI-SAB

ORDER VACATING FEBRUARY 7, 2023  
SCHEDULING CONFERENCE AND  
REQUIRING PLAINTIFF TO FILE A  
MOTION FOR DEFAULT JUDGMENT

**FORTY-FIVE-DAY DEADLINE**

Hendrik Block (“Plaintiff”) filed this action on October 28, 2022, against Defendants California-Fresno Investment Company, and Cedar Plaza, Inc. (ECF No. 1.) On December 6, 2022, and January 5, 2023, the Clerk of the Court entered default against Defendants pursuant to Plaintiff’s requests. (ECF Nos. 6, 7, 8, 9.)

Pursuant to Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 55, obtaining a default judgment is a two-step process. Yue v. Storage Technology Corp., No. 3:07-cv-05850, 2008 WL 361142, \*2 (N.D. Cal. Feb. 11, 2008). Entry of default is appropriate as to any party against whom a judgment for affirmative relief is sought that has failed to plead or otherwise defend as provided by the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and where that fact is made to appear by affidavit or otherwise. Fed. R. Civ. P. 55(a). After entry of default, the plaintiff can seek entry of default judgment. Fed. R. Civ. P. 55(b)(1) and (2). “Default judgments are generally disfavored, and whenever it is reasonably possible, cases should be decided upon their merits.” In re Hammer, 940 F.2d 524,

(9th Cir. 1991) (internal punctuation and citations omitted).

As the Defendants in this matter are in default, the Court shall vacate the mandatory scheduling conference and set a deadline for a motion for default judgment to be filed.

Accordingly, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

1. Within **forty-five (45) days** from the date of service of this order, Plaintiff shall file a motion for default judgment;
2. The scheduling conference set for February 7, 2023, is VACATED; and
3. Plaintiff is advised that the failure to comply with this order shall result in a recommendation that this action be dismissed for failure to prosecute.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: **January 10, 2023**

  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE